



# FIREBIRD COAXPRESS

## Low Profile Frame Grabber



- CoaXPress Frame Grabber
- Low-Profile (half-height) PC form-factor
- One CoaXPress link at 6.25 Gbps
- External I/O on front panel connector
- 4-lane Gen2 PCI Express interface

### FEATURES

---

- CoaXPress gives high-speed data, power, and camera control all over a single cable.
- Competitively priced to offer a real-time alternative to GigE Vision (NBASE-T) and USB3 Vision.
- ActiveDMA engine – acquisition with zero CPU usage.
- Comprehensive I/O including front panel I/O.
- Supports PoCXP (Power over CoaXPress).
- Micro-BNC connector.
- Half-length low-profile PCI form-factor.
- Low profile or full height bracket options available.
- Supported by the proven ActiveSDK.
- Full GenICam support (including GenTL Producer).



### OVERVIEW

---

**FireBird Single CXP-6 Low Profile** is a member of Active Silicon's state-of-the-art FireBird frame grabber family. This board has been optimized for cost-effectiveness and is ideal for use with the new small and affordable single link CoaXPress cameras on the market. It combines competitive pricing with all the advantages of CoaXPress – higher bandwidths, longer cable lengths and the considerably higher reliability of a dedicated vision standard.

**FireBird** is designed for ultimate performance using Active Silicon's proprietary DMA engine technology, "ActiveDMA". This technical innovation applies RISC based processor techniques and guarantees zero CPU usage, providing high speed and low latency image data transfers.

CoaXPress is a leading transmission standard for high-speed imaging in professional and industrial applications. The CoaXPress link supports up to 6.25 Gbps data rates, along with device power up to 13W and device control at 20 Mbps – all on a single coax cable. Very long cable lengths are supported – up to 40m at 6.25 Gbps and over 100m at 3.125 Gbps. Active Silicon was one of the primary authors of the CoaXPress international standard, which is hosted by the JIIA (Japan Industrial Imaging Association). All our CoaXPress products are certified compliant to the specification through the JIIA CoaXPress Product Certification Program.

**FireBird** is supported by Active Silicon's software development kit, ActiveSDK. This is available as a separate item and allows rapid system development and integration. It provides comprehensive example applications and optimized libraries, and supports a variety of operating systems via a common API,

including Windows, Linux (64-bit environments) and QNX. Drivers for third party applications are also available such as Cognex VisionPro, HALCON, Common Vision Blox, StreamPix, LabVIEW etc. Full GenICam support is included in the drivers and this includes a GenTL Producer for data streaming as well as register accesses. Additional to functions that control the hardware, the libraries include general purpose functions for the manipulation and display of images. A separate datasheet describes the ActiveSDK in detail.

## SPECIFICATION SUMMARY

---

<i>CoaXPress Interface:</i>	A Micro-BNC connector provides one link operating up to 6.25 Gbps and providing up to 13W of power via Power over CoaXPress (PoCXP). An LED alongside the Micro-BNC shows the link status according to the CoaXPress specification.
<i>PCI Express:</i>	4-lane Gen2 interface to support up to 20 Gbps transfer from <b>FireBird</b> to the PC.
<i>I/O:</i>	<p>The following I/O lines are provided for triggers, shaft encoders, exposure control and general I/O:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 opto-isolated inputs.</li> <li>• 4 opto-isolated outputs.</li> <li>• 4 TTL inputs, 5V tolerant.</li> <li>• 4 TTL I/O, 5V logic.</li> <li>• 4 RS-422 inputs.</li> <li>• 4 RS-422 outputs.</li> </ul> <p>All these I/O signals are provided on a 50-way header on the <b>FireBird</b> board.</p> <p>A 15-way D-Type connector is located on the front panel and allows access to a subset of the above I/O:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 opto-isolated inputs.</li> <li>• 3 TTL I/O, 5V logic.</li> <li>• 2 RS-422 inputs.</li> <li>• 1 RS-422 output.</li> </ul>
<i>Acquisition Control:</i>	<p>The acquisition control functionality is used to determine which video frames to acquire from the camera. The system can be configured for a single trigger event to acquire all subsequent frames, a trigger event per frame, or continuous acquisition irrespective of the trigger condition.</p> <p>The trigger event is programmable to be level or edge sensing via the control inputs (see the I/O section for more details) which can also be filtered to removed noise. Additionally, a delay block allows acquisition to be delayed by a defined time.</p>
<i>Trigger Control:</i>	<p>A comprehensive trigger control block allows triggers to be sent both over CoaXPress and to the control outputs (see the I/O section for more details).</p> <p>These triggers can be generated from the control inputs, an astable timer, and a software trigger. The selected trigger source can be filtered to removed noise, and can trigger monostable timers to provide defined width pulses, e.g. for exposure control or lighting control. Additionally, delay blocks allow the trigger to be shifted by a defined time.</p> <p>Additional modes interface to shaft encoders, including support for a quadrature encoder with the option to reject mechanical jitter from the encoder.</p>
<i>Region of Interest:</i>	The Region Of Interest (ROI) feature controls which part of the output image to acquire. In areascan mode, this is a rectangular region with a programmable width, height and x / y offset.



---

Linescan mode is similar, allowing control of the width and x offset, with the height control being used to package the data into pseudo frames for subsequent processing by the user's application.

---

*Status LEDs:*

Status LEDs are fitted to provide feedback on the camera connectivity and **FireBird** activity:

Camera connectivity:

- Camera connected / not connected.
- Data transfer from camera.

FireBird activity:

- FPGA configuration.
  - PCIe access.
-



## CONFORMANCE

---

<i>PCI Express Interface:</i>	PCI Express Bus four lane Gen2 interface to Specification Revision 3.1, with a max payload size of 512 bytes. <b>FireBird Single CXP-6 Low Profile</b> supports both Short (32-bit) and Long (64-bit) Address packets. It also generates Posted Writes for image data, thus achieving transfer rates in excess of 1.7 GBytes/sec, subject to host performance. The board requires 16 MBytes of address space.	
<i>CoaXPress:</i>	<b>FireBird Single CXP-6 Low Profile</b> conforms to v1.1 of the CoaXPress specification. Micro-BNC ready for CXP v2.0.	
<i>Approvals:</i>	EU	CE mark for compliance with EMC EN 55022:2010 (class A) and EN 55024:2010 in accordance with EU directive 2014/30/EU. RoHS compliance to RoHS3 directive 2015/863/EU.
	USA	EMC FCC Class A.
	The printed circuit board is manufactured by UL recognised manufacturers and has a flammability rating of 94-V0.	

---

## PHYSICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL DETAILS

---

<i>Dimensions:</i>	PCB:	168mm by 69mm.
	Overall:	180mm by 69mm.
<i>Approximate weight:</i>	103g (with low profile PC card bracket) 107g (with full height PC card bracket)	
<i>Power consumption (typical):</i>	+3.3 V	+12 V
<i>(Measured while acquiring at CXP-6 speed)</i>	12mA	375mA Plus up to 17W for PoCXP
<i>Storage Temperature:</i>	-15°C to +85°C.	
<i>Operating Temperature:</i>	0 °C to +70°C (ambient environment).	
<i>Relative Humidity:</i>	10% to 90% non-condensing (operating and storage).	

---



## ORDERING INFORMATION

---

<b>PART NUMBER</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>AS-FBD-1XCXP6-2PE4L-L</b>	<b>FireBird Single CXP-6 Low Profile</b> frame grabber, low profile PCI Express form-factor with a low profile PC card bracket.
<b>AS-FBD-1XCXP6-2PE4L-F</b>	<b>FireBird Single CXP-6 Low Profile</b> frame grabber, low profile PCI Express form-factor with a full height PC card bracket.
<b>AS-ACTIVESDK-xxx</b>	Software Development Kit for xxx operating system. For a full list of all supported operating systems please refer to the SDK datasheet, or contact your distributor.
<b>AS-CBL-1MB-0006-xM</b>	Micro-BNC to BNC cable x metres in length for use with CoaXPress video sources. 4mm diameter. Standard stock lengths are 1m, 3m, 5m, 10m and 20m. High-flex rating and longer length cables also available – contact your distributor for details.
<b>AS-CBL-1MD-0006-xM</b>	Micro-BNC to DIN 1.0/2.3 cable x metres in length for use with CoaXPress video sources. 4mm diameter. Standard stock lengths are 1m, 3m, 5m, 10m and 20m. High-flex rating and longer length cables also available – contact your distributor for details.

## THE FIREBIRD RANGE

---

The following products are also available in the range:

- High performance CoaXPress frame grabbers in dual and quad configurations.
- Camera Link frame grabbers: Base, Medium, Full, 80-bit (Deca), Dual-80-bit.

Some variants in the range are also available in non-PC form-factors such as PC/104-Express and CompactPCI Serial.



## CONTACT DETAILS

---

### *Europe:*

Active Silicon Ltd  
Pinewood Mews, Bond Close, Iver,  
Bucks, SL0 0NA, UK.

Tel: +44 (0)1753 650600  
Fax: +44 (0)1753 651661  
Email: [info@activesilicon.com](mailto:info@activesilicon.com)  
Website: [www.activesilicon.com](http://www.activesilicon.com)

### *USA:*

Active Silicon, Inc.  
479 Jumpers Hole Road, Suite 301,  
Severna Park, MD 21146, USA.

Tel: +1 410-696-7642  
Fax: +1 410-696-7643  
Email: [info@activesilicon.com](mailto:info@activesilicon.com)  
Website: [www.activesilicon.com](http://www.activesilicon.com)